

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for performing wireless communication using a plurality of frequency channels, the method comprising:

5 detecting an error rate of each of a plurality of frequency channels used by wireless communication;

determining whether the detected error rate is higher than a specific threshold value; and

10 suspending use of a frequency channel whose error rate is determined to be higher than the specific threshold value.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

15 detecting an error rate of the frequency channel under suspension by trying performing wireless communication using the frequency channel under suspension; and

20 resuming use of the frequency channel under suspension when the detected error rate is lower than that of another frequency channel in use.

25 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said detecting includes selecting a frequency channel whose error rate is to be detected such that the error rates of the plurality of frequency channels are detected in order of decreasing frequency.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said detecting includes selecting a frequency channel whose

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error rate is to be detected such that the error rates of the plurality of frequency channels are detected in order of increasing frequency.

5 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said wireless communication is performed by a master-slave system, said detecting and said determining are performed by a master, and said suspending includes notifying a slave of a suspension of use of a frequency channel whose error rate is determined to be higher
10 than the specific threshold value by the master.

 6. The method according to claim 1, wherein said wireless communication is spread spectrum-frequency hopping communication, and said suspending includes excluding the frequency channel whose error rate is
15 determined to be higher than the specific threshold value, from a plurality of frequency channels targeted for frequency hopping.

 7. The method according to claim 1, wherein said wireless communication is spread spectrum-frequency
20 hopping communication which performs frequency hopping using a plurality of frequency channels having different carrier frequencies and defined in a specified frequency band, said detecting includes detecting an error rate of each of a plurality of
25 frequency channel groups into which the plurality of frequency channels are divided for each frequency range, each of the frequency channel groups including

frequency channels falling within a single frequency range, the each frequency range having a bandwidth which is equal to a bandwidth of each frequency channels of another wireless communication that performs a wireless communication by using the specified frequency band, and

said suspending includes excluding each frequency channel of a frequency channel group whose error rate is higher than the specific threshold value, from frequency channels targeted for the frequency hopping.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said suspending includes stopping use of a frequency channel whose error rate is determined to be higher than the specific threshold value, the method further comprising changing a frequency channel to be used, from the stopped frequency channel to another frequency channel which is not used.

9. A wireless communication apparatus for performing wireless communication using a plurality of frequency channels, the apparatus comprising:

a detecting unit configured to detect an error rate of each of a plurality of frequency channels used by the wireless communication;

a determining unit configured to determine whether the detected error rate is higher than a specific threshold value; and

a suspending unit configured to suspend use of

a frequency channel whose error rate is determined to be higher than the specific threshold value.

10. The wireless communication apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

5 a detecting unit configured to detect an error rate of the frequency channel under suspension by trying performing wireless communication using the frequency channel under suspension; and

10 a resuming unit configured to resume use of the frequency channel under suspension when the detected error rate is lower than that of another frequency channel in use.

15 11. The wireless communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said wireless communication is spread spectrum-frequency hopping communication, and said suspending unit includes a unit which excludes the frequency channel whose error rate is determined to be higher than the specific threshold value, from a plurality of frequency channels targeted for
20 frequency hopping.

25 12. The wireless communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said wireless communication is spread spectrum-frequency hopping communication which performs frequency hopping using a plurality of frequency channels having different carrier frequencies and defined in a specified frequency band, said detecting unit includes a unit which detects an error

rate of each of a plurality of frequency channel groups
into which the plurality of frequency channels are
divided for each frequency range, each of the frequency
channel groups including frequency channels falling
5 within a single frequency range, the each frequency
range having a bandwidth which is equal to a bandwidth
of each frequency channels of another wireless
communication that performs a wireless communication by
using the specified frequency band, and

10 said suspending unit includes a unit which
excludes each frequency channel of a frequency channel
group whose error rate is higher than the specific
threshold value, from frequency channels targeted for
the frequency hopping.